Push Mower Use

What Personal Protective Equipment is required?
When operating this equipment wear:
• Hearing protection ear muffs or ear plugs
• Safety glasses
• Face shield if wearing prescription glasses
• Snug fitting and durable clothing, jean or long pants no shorts or cut-offs
• Heavy duty non-slip gloves
• Safety boots
• Do not wear clothing/items that could get caught in equipment

What should I do prior to operating?
• Prior to operating any equipment review the operator’s manual to familiarize yourself with the equipment.
• Inspect the equipment as outlined in operator’s manual including the following:
  • Check mower for loose fasteners
  • Inspect grass catcher if used
  • Check tires
  • Check drive wheels

How do I safely operate the equipment?
• Keep people away from starting and work areas
• Do not put hands or feet near or under mower deck, keep clear of discharge openings.
• Clear work area of objects such as rocks, toys, wire, branches and other items that could be thrown by the mower
• Ensure the area is clear of other people, stop work if they are not.
• Do not operate without safety boots.
• Do not pull mower backwards unless absolutely necessary.
• Do not operate without proper guards.
• Stop blade when crossing gravel drives, sidewalks, or roads
• Shut engine off and wait for parts to stop moving before cleaning or unclogging mower

How do I safely operate on a slope?
• Mow across the face, never up and down
• Exercise caution when changing direction
• Watch for holes, ruts or bumps.
• Do not trim near drop-offs, ditches or embankments
• Do not trim excessively steep slopes
• Do not mow on wet grass

How do I safely add fuel?
When adding fuel observe the following
• If required mix fuel and oil as per operator’s manual.
• Always mix fuel outdoors
• Always shut off the motor
• Let the motor cool before adding fuel
• Do not smoke or place hot objects near fuel
• Open fuel cap slowly to release pressure gently
• Tighten fuel cap carefully after refueling
• Move the machine away from the area of refueling before trying to restart.
• If fuel is spilled on machine, wipe up the spillage and allow for the remaining fuel to evaporate
• If fuel is spilled on your clothes change your clothing and wash any parts of your body that has come in contact with the fuel
• If fuel is leaking from the machine remove from use until repaired.

What are some of the hazards?
• Hearing loss by failing to wear hearing protection properly
• Caught in moving blade causing amputation

What if I have other concerns?
If you have any concerns or questions speak to your:
1. Supervisor,
2. Health and safety representative, or
3. Contact EHS